



The Ground Plane

South Bay
Amateur
Radio
Association
ARRL Member Club
Since 1974



Volume 2 Edition 10

October, 2001



Our thoughts go out to all of the people affected with the loss that the Nation has experienced on September 11, 2001.



Presidents Message (will return next month)
SBARA 2001 President—Mike AB6CV

TO THOSE OF YOU WHO PURCHASED PACIFICON TICKETS

and paid only \$5. I learned recently the price has been increased. It is \$10 before the convention or \$15 at the door. A few of you bought early so please see me. If you elect not to go I'd be pleased to refund your \$5. I remember Bill bought one and Elise bought two. There were several others, too. I am terribly sorry for this mistake. It was mine. SYD-QWK

October Program

Helen Campbell-KD6WXS will be joined by Doug-GBE and Syd-QWK to tell us about the elements of organizing and putting on a special event. They plan to use Primavera as an example. Special events are truly fun events for the hams and offer a tremendous benefit to the community.

Many of you may feel the same way so it's smart to find out how to arrange one.

NOMINATIONS HAVE TO BE MADE THIS MONTH

Please come to our next meeting prepared to nominate our next group of officers.

They will be voted on at our November meeting and take office January 2002.

Current Officers are listed on Page 4 within this Newsletter.

SBARA Holiday Dinner

The SBARA Annual Holiday dinner is planned for December 15, 2001. Details in this issue of the Newsletter. Menu details on Page 5.

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It Seems to Us . . . We Are Not Alone

*By David Sumner, K1ZZ
ARRL Executive Vice President
October 8, 2001*

ARRL Editor's note: Typically, only ARRL members get to read the "It Seems to Us ..." editorials that run each month in QST. We're posting this editorial by ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, that appears in the November 2001 issue of QST in the hope that both ARRL

The day dawned perfectly in the northeastern United States. It was the sort of late-summer morning that heralds the imminent arrival of that most glorious of seasons: autumn, with its iridescent foliage and crispness in the air that makes the drawing of every breath a pure delight. It was a great day to be alive.

At 8:48 AM all that changed. The world changed, probably forever.

There is no need to describe here the horrific events of that second Tuesday morning in September, not that mere words possibly could. The images are burned into our minds and will stay with us as long as we live.

For those who lost loved ones the void can never be filled. For the rest of us, time may take some of the edge off the pain. Passing years may cause us to forget how helpless we felt as we experienced a chain of catastrophes unprecedented in American history, utterly incapable of knowing when or whether they would end. This may happen, but for now it seems impossible. Nothing, it seems, can ever be the same.

The attacks occurred on American soil, but it was not simply a national tragedy. We now know that it was an international tragedy, with people from more than 60 countries and every major faith tradition counted among its victims. But in the first moments of that terrible morning it was natural for Americans to feel isolated from the rest of the world. Our own jetliners, symbols of American technological prowess, had been turned against us. If we could not even trust our own mechanical creations, who and what could we trust? Were we alone in a world that suddenly had turned unimaginably hostile?

The answers soon began to arrive. Here in Newington they came in the form of emailed messages of condolence and support from radio amateurs throughout the world that began to arrive that very same morning, first as a trickle but soon as a flood. They came from our sister societies in countries as diverse as Japan, Germany, Turkey, Egypt, Lebanon, Oman, Pakistan, Syria, Yugoslavia, and dozens of others. They came from individuals in these and many other countries, some of whom shared their stories of why the United States occupied a special place in their hearts -- stories of great sacrifices made by GIs, of aid given when it was most needed after World War II, or simply of kindness shown by an individual American that reflected the best values of our open society. Thanks to the thoughtfulness of our unique, global Amateur Radio fraternity, before that awful day had ended we were privileged to know what many Americans would not discover until later in the week: We are not alone. The entire civilized world shares our grief and our outrage.

It Seems to Us . . . We Are Not Alone (cont'd.)

By David Sumner, K1ZZ

Less than a lifetime ago the United States and its allies were fighting a two-ocean war against ruthless, implacable enemies. Today we count these former enemies among our closest friends. Some of the first messages offering comfort and support came from countries that experienced their own brush with the Apocalypse delivered by American bombers. Their friendship today did not spring from defeat and subjugation. Rather, it sprouted from seeds planted by what Tom Brokaw calls The Greatest Generation--my father's generation, the generation that not only won the war but equally importantly, also won the peace. Will my own generation do as well? Decades from now, will our children and grandchildren live in a world where today's enemies are friends? Or will they be forced to retreat into armed camps, suspicious of differences, unable to know the wondrous diversity the world has to offer?

As the war on terrorism is launched it is difficult to hold such lofty thoughts for long. The wounds are too fresh and too deep. Living one day at a time is challenge enough. Yet, as radio amateurs we can at least do this much. As the terrorists and their few sympathizers look for evidence that the civilized world is tearing itself apart, let them draw no comfort from what they hear on the ham bands. We are communicators. Let us communicate our resolve that the world must remain united in the face of terrorism. Let us communicate our respect for one another across the boundaries of nationality, religion, cultural background, and the other myriad ways society seeks to group us. Let us communicate our desire to increase our understanding of one another.

And let us remember the radio amateurs who died on that terrible Tuesday morning. Even as we look with hope toward the future, we know that our fraternity is the poorer for their loss.

We regret to report that the following Amateur Radio operators are listed among those missing from the World Trade Center and Pentagon Disasters:

- Steven A. "Steve" Jacobson, N2SJ, 53, an ARRL member and a WPIX transmitter engineer from New York City.
- William V. "Bill" Steckman, WA2ACW, of W Hempstead, New York, a WNBC transmitter engineer.
- Michael G. Jacobs, AA1GO, 54, an ARRL member from Danbury, Connecticut.
- Robert D. "Bob" Cirri Sr, KA2OTD, 39, an ARRL member from Nutley, New Jersey, and ARRL Hudson County District Emergency Coordinator. A Port Authority Police officer, Cirri was helping to evacuate workers from the World Trade Center when it collapsed.
- William R. "Bill" Ruth, W3HRD, 58, of Mt Airy, Maryland, an ARRL member, who died in Pentagon attack. He was a Vietnam and Gulf war veteran and worked in the Pentagon.
- Gerard J. "Rod" Coppola, KA2KET, 46, of New York City.
- Winston A. Grant, KA2DRF, 59, of W Hempstead, New York.

SBARA Nominations—2001 NEW OFFICERS TO BE ELECTED IN NOVEMBER

NOMINATIONS HAVE TO BE MADE THIS MONTH

Please come to our next meeting prepared
to nominate our next group of officers.
They will be voted on at our November
meeting and take office January 2002.

**Here are the offices and present
incumbents:**

President, Mike Struder-AB6CV

Vice-Presidents, Adam Lau-KF6UQS and
Nathan Lau-KF6UQR

Treasurer-Jim Wood-KE6IVA

**We are fortunate in having the following vol-
unteers who are appointed by the in
coming president:**

Programs Facilitator, Al Rendon-WT6K

Photographer, Sam-W6S

Webmaster-Tony Flusche -AB6BR

Newsletter Editor, Bill Artelt-WB9YVM

Please attend our next meeting and make your
nomination. Be sure to check with your nomi-
nee to determine if that person will agree to be
on the ballot.

SBARA HOLIDAY DINNER Saturday, December 15, 7:00 P.M.

SBARA HOLIDAY DINNER

SBARA President Mike asked several of us to make arrangements for our annual holiday dinner. We quickly found that we were not moving too soon. The first choice was the Olive Garden but it has a new policy, namely, no reservations on Friday, Saturday or Sunday

After considering our choices we selected Lucia's restaurant. It is no longer at its old place on N. Mowry, but has taken over the location previously occupied by Daly's. This is in a shopping center at Mowry and Blacow. The place has been made very attractive and we will have a large private room all to ourselves. Lucia now has a large full-bar and will serve anything you might want; the old Lucia was licensed for beer and wine only. Saturday, December 8, our usual dinner date was already reserved by another club.

Because we will have a fairly large group it is necessary for Lucia to limit our selection to four entrees. Your planning committee made the selection of these four and are listed below. Next month we will contact you through the newsletter to learn what you picked out of the four. The restaurant has the club's deposit, so no advanced payment on your part is needed. You can pay the night of the dinner; an individual check with sales tax and 15% tip added will be presented to you.

Lucia has an excellent selection of Italian food, all very good. **So save the date and join us.** We will have with us some friends from "Baker to Vegas", and others that we haven't seen for a while.

SBARA HOLIDAY DINNER

Saturday, December 15, 7:00 P.M.

Menu Selections

All prices include SALES TAX and TIP. (15%)

Entrees-all served with salad and French bread.
Non-alcoholic beverage is included.

1. **Pasta Primavera** fresh vegetables sautéed with garlic, caramelized onion, wine and chicken broth. Spaghetti or mostacioli. ----- \$16.25
 2. **Cannelloni** filled with mixture of cheeses, Swiss chard and Italian sausage baked, in meat sauce and topped with mozzarella cheese----- \$17.00
 3. **Veal Parmigiana**, breaded and grilled, topped with meat sauce and pasta-----
----- \$24.00
 4. **Fettuccine Alfredo**-----
\$17.30
 5. **Children's Menu** (under 12 years old), spaghetti, spaghetti with meatballs or Cannelloni----- \$ 8.80
-

CERT News and Information

CERT COMM ANNOUNCES FALL CLASSES

Our standard training curriculum for CERT Comm members and other people interested in emergency communications begins on October 11th with our cornerstone class "Communications, Command and Control". Here you will learn how CERT Comm is integrated into the Incident Command structure as well as basic emergency communications protocols. Learn how the CERT Comm Operational Guidelines will help you face emergency communications with confidence. Also covered is the flow of information starting from the CERT field team, to the City, up to the County, and then on to the State. The best part: a hands-on simulation of communications during a disaster completes the class! This class will be of interest to radio operators and non-radio operators alike.

The complete list of classes is:

- * Communications, Command, and Control (Oct. 11)
- * Basic Ham Radio Operation (Nov. 1)
- * Introduction to Packet Radio (Nov. 8)
- * Field Deployable Antennas (Nov. 10)

All classes except 'Antennas' run from 7:00 - 9:30 PM at the Centerville Room of the Fremont city administration building, 39100 Liberty Street. Information for the Antennas class will be available shortly.

To register, please contact Nancy Peterson (KF6HOI) at nfpeterson@bemis.com and provide your name, address, and phone number. All classes are free of charge. Registered students will be kept informed of any last minute changes. Check the CERT Comm website, <http://www.qsl.net/kg6adr> for details.

Instant Ham License Class and Exam

Particularly for you new folks... If you are interested in becoming a Ham radio operator, the quickest way to get your license is by attending the next "Ham Cram" session. It is a day on intense study followed immediately by the license exam. Almost everyone passes the exam.

The next session is:

- * October 20, 2001
- * 8:30 - 5:00 PM
- * Foster City Community Center, 1000 East Hillsdale Blvd., Foster City
- * Fee: \$25
- * Contact Ross Peterson at wb6zbu@arrl.net to register and confirm the location.

Updates to CERT Comm Web Site

The CERT Comm website, <http://www.qsl.net/kg6adr> now contains:

- * The schedule and descriptions for this Fall's series of CERT Comm classes.
- * The Jungle Tower assembly instructions. Included are photos taken at the Jungle Tower Assembly Class. Check it out!

CERT Event and Picnic

The CERT Event and Picnic last Saturday, September 22, was a great success with about 300 CERT members and their families attending. Thanks are extended to everyone who attended -- you showed your dedication, refreshed your skills, and had a great time to boot! Special thanks go out to all the people who organized the event. Here I would particularly thank the people you helped CERT Comm with its responsibilities:

- ** Rudi Wiedemann -- FRS Training Class
- ** Nancy Peterson, Joe Peterson, Mike Fung, Bill Palleschi, Ken Thomas, Joy Barnitz, Tony Mino, and Dave Levy -- Model Incident Command Center and Communications Post.

GREAT JOB!

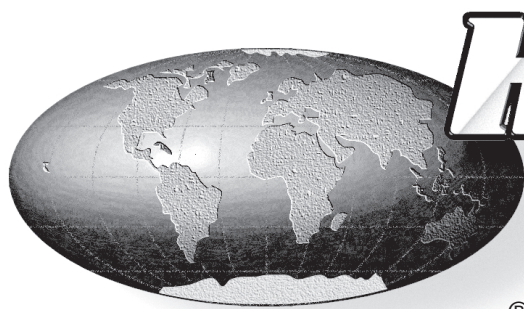
Sights from the 2001 CERT Family Picnic — Lake Elizabeth September



September Meeting Photos



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